Nippon Times

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'BIG 3' TO OPEN MEETING IN POTSDAM NEXT WEEK

Slated Monday Or Tuesday; Warship Carrying Truman Due In Antwerp on Sunday

According to a Washington report dated July 12 received in Lisbon, a correspondent on board the U.S. cruiser Augusta carrying President Truman and his staff to the "Big Three" conference said that the Potsdam meeting will be opened on Monday or Tuesday and that the conference will be a lengthy one.

Ship dispatches from the Augusta said that the warship is nearing the coast of Britain today and will be met by a convoy of British warships and escorted through the English Channel. It is due to arrive in the Belgian port of Antwerp on Sunday.

A Reuter correspondent from Washington reported that the American President is expected to submit proposals for a United Nations Peace Conference next year when he attends the talks in Potsdam. He said that only the broad outlines of the territorial settlement in Europe and the most difficult and the most urgent problems will be thrashed out at the meeting which will be participated in by Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin.

A London report said that Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden is preparing to join Churchill in Potsdam. Churchill is still vacationing in southwestern France. From Moscow, a report relayed to Stockholm asserted that Premier Stalin is getting ready to make the trip to Germany. The same dispatch declared that a small group of British diplomatic officials have already left Moscow on their way to the conference. British Ambassador to Moscow Sir Archibald Clark Kerr has also left for Potsdam but he is spending a few days beforehand in Warsaw at the invitation of the Polish Government.

Another Moscow dispatch in commenting on the meeting said that among the problems to be discussed will probably include the industrial area of Teschen which is claimed by both Poland and Czechslovakia, the reparation policy, the review of the Turkish control of the Straits of Dardanelles since the Montreux Convention, and the status of Italy and Bulgaria.

A Paris report said that General Dwight Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces in Europe, who returned to Paris by plane last night from the United States will attend the conference. Other members of the chiefs of staff will join Eisenhower.

Meanwhile, the French Government according to a Paris report feels that the Potsdam meeting might provide solutions to French problems in North Africa and Lebanon, problems that suddenly burst forth in full swing with the arrival of peace in Europe.

Soong Again Sees Stalin

According to a Moscow report dated July 12 received in Stockholm, Dr. T. V. Soong, President of the Chungking Executive Yuan, had another talk with Premier Stalin today. Later, Soong also conferred with U.S. Ambassador to Moscow W. Averill Harriman, and British Ambassador Sir Archibald Clark Kerr before they left Moscow for the Potsdam conference. The same dispatch said that it is understood that the Russo-Chungking talks which are now ending have made satisfactory progress and that an agreement is expected soon.

Oshima Reaches New York

According to a New York report dated July 12 received in Lisbon, Japanese Ambassador to Berlin, Lieutenant General Hiroshi Oshima, with members of his staff arrived in New York yesterday aboard the American transport West Point and was immediately taken to an unknown destination.

Soviet-Chiang Pact Planned

According to a statement made by official Soviet quarters, negotiations are at present being conducted in Moscow between the Soviet Union and Chungking for a goodwill and and cooperation pact, reports a Washington dispatch of the French News Agency relayed from Lisbon by Domei on July 12.

NOTICE

Owing to disruption of the gas service, today's issue of the Nippon Times has been reduced to two pages.

His Majesty Presents Money to Relief Organ For Interned Japanese

His Majesty the Emperor, on Friday, graciously donated ¥30,000 out of the Privy Purse to the Commission for the Benefit of Japanese Subjects in Enemy Countries in recognition of its valuable services for the relief and encouragement of Japanese interned in enemy countries since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. This Imperial Benevolence was respectfully acknowledged by the Commission, when Hachiro Arita, its chairman, received the Imperial gift through Imperial Household Minister Sotaro Ishiwata at the Imperial Household Department at 10 a.m. on Friday.

CONGRESS HEAD MEETS VICEROY WAVELL AGAIN

Determined Talk Reported Between Two — Commitiee Discussions Hopeful, Azad Says

Maulana Abul Kalan Azad, President of the Indian National Congress, met Lord Wavell, Viceroy of India, Thursday afternoon, according to a Simla dispatch relayed from Lisbon.

The dispatch said that there was a determined talk between the two. Maulana Azad, accompanied by his interpreter, arrived at the Viceregal Lodge a few minutes before 3 p.m., and was with Lord Wavell till 3:50 p.m.

After his interview with the Viceroy, Maulana Azad went straight to Armsdale, where Mahatma Gandhi is staying, and where the Congress Working Committee was to meet. By the time he arrived, many members of the Committee had begun to assemble. The Committee went into session at 4:35 p.m. and after an hour and 20 minutes, it adjourned to meet again at 4 p.m. on Friday.

It is understood that at Thursday's sitting, the Congress Working Committee discussed the situation in the light of the Viceroy's talks with Maulana Azad and with Mahatma Gandhi.

Queried by waiting pressmen, Maulana Azad declined to reveal the nature of his talks with the Viceroy. He, however, said that from the Congress point of view the discussions had been very hopeful. And as he was about to leave considering the picture as it emerged, Maulana Azad said: "I was hopeful and am hopeful. India has reached a political stage from where she is only a step from her goal." Asked if there was any hitch in the Congress, he replied: "No. All discussions are going on very smoothly."

Earlier Thursday, the Viceroy held discussions with the Punjab Premier. Meanwhile, there has been a number of talks among the Indian leaders themselves. Both the Congress and the Muslim League are trying to decide what lines to take when the conference meets again on Saturday in what is probably its final session. It looks as if the Indian parties have brought about a deadlock with their conflicting claims to seats on the projected executive council.

However, on Saturday, Lord Wavell is expected to solve up the whole conference on the conclusions reached by him with the advice of the Indian leaders.

On the other hand, informed circles are reported to have said Wednesday that the Simla conference would break up on Saturday by an indefinite adjournment, without agreement on a new Indian government.

Other political activity in Simla on Thursday included a further meeting of the All India Muslim League. It started at 11:15 a.m. and continued for an hour and 45 minutes. At the end of the meeting, Sardar Aurangzeb Khan, General Secretary of the Muslim League, said that no propagations have been made for the next meeting of the Muslim League Working Committee, but the members are staying on in Simla.

The Premier of Assam was with Mohammed Ali Jinnah, the Muslim League President, for half an hour Thursday afternoon.

In the meanwhile, in the series of discussions Lord Wavell is having with Indian leaders, new party leaders were expected in Simla Saturday. They are the leader of the Muslim Party, leader of the Sikh representatives at the leaders' conference and the leader of the European group in India.

Petain's Trial for July 19

The public trial of Marshal Philippe Petain will reportedly be opened on July 19, says a Domei Lisbon dispatch quoting a Paris report.

EFFECTIVENESS MARKED GERMAN WAR ECONOMY

Inflation Was Successfully Combatted Until End, Says Nippon Financial Expert

A solid wartime economic structure enabled Germany to check inflation, declared Takeo Yumoto, Japan's Financial Commissioner in Germany, who actually witnessed the effective operation of managed economy in Germany during the period commencing just before the start of the German-Soviet hostilities and ending with Germany's defeat, and who returned to Tokyo on July 8. Mr. Yumoto continued:

"In order to study the operation of wartime economy in various countries participating in the European War, I sojourned in Europe for five years, from the outset of European War to the downfall of Germany. When I arrived in Germany, the wartime economic structure there had already been completely established, and, furthermore, the military operations were progressing favorably for that country. The war, therefore, did not seem to have seriously influenced the people's livelihood.

"When the war situation took a turn for the worse with the start of the struggle against the Soviet Union, being further aggravated by the enemy's invasion of Normandy, war expenses greatly increased. After the bombing of Berlin and other cities started, commodity rations were reduced, and in addition, the expanded war expenditure was met by an over-issuance of currency. Due however, to the solidly managed economy, commodity prices did not increase much. The prices of some daily necessities were doubled, but otherwise commodities were obtainable at the same prices as before the war, due to Government subsidies.

"As to distribution of foodstuffs, the people were able to buy staple food, such as bread, potatoes, butter, meat, and sugar whenever they showed their ration tickets. Other foodstuffs were also obtainable on designated days. In the light of the experiences in the First European War, Germany apparently paid particular attention to the stabilization of the people's livelihood. Even during he constant air raids, grocery stores were kept open in Berlin.

"Shoes, toothbrushes, tooth powder, clothing; coffee, and tobacco, becoming scarce, were sold at black market prices. However, black market dealings were so scarce that the people found it difficult to buy things by means of such irregular transactions. In Italy and France, black market dealings were rampant and in France, five-eighths of commodity dealings are said to have been conducted by such transactions. On the black market, coffee and tobacco were mainly utilized for barter transactions, and, particularly, almost anything was available in exchange for coffee.

"Managed economy was effective till the capitulation of Germany and the Berliners did not even think of hoarding foodstuffs and other daily commodities till they realized the coll[illegible] of Berlin was inevitable. Surplus purchasing power found its outlet in the purchase of expensive tickets for operas, picture shows and concerts. Theaters were always packed and restaurants and cabarets did good business because the people did not mind spending money for amusements. They would pay from five to 10 marks for one meal when eating out and the price of wine was from 30 to 40 marks a bottle.

"The people's savings, increased even though Germany did not set up any definite goal for savings. A compulsory savings system, called 'Iron Savings,' was founded, however, in order to bolster savings. From the time of the large-scale July bombing of Hamburg last year, there was a tendency for the people to carry around cash instead of depositing surplus money in banks, but still I did not witness any vicious inflation. The stability of the German wartime economic structure must be thus ascribed to the effective adoption of managed economy, and the fact that the people were not able to obtain any commodity which they could use in exchange for other commodities contributed toward the checking of inflation."

Anti-V-Bomb Plane Bared

The British Air Ministry revealed on July 11 facts concerning a British rocket-propelled fighter plane produced to combat the German V-1 and V-2 rocket bombs, says a Lisbon dispatch to Domei. The new super-fighter 'Meteor', is an all-metal, low-wing, single-seater plane and has two rocket engines. It is armed with four 20-millimeter guns, enjoys great maneuverability and is said to be the foremost plane of its kind in the world.

Terrific Striking Power of Special Attacks On Okinawa Front Stressed by Swiss Paper

Under the heading, "Japanese Special Attack Corps," the Tribune de Geneve published on the front page of its issue of July 9, an article highly praising Japanese Special Attack Corps, according to a Domei report from Zurich.

"The systematised fighting method called the special attack is extremely costly in men and materials, but in its effect it far suppasses that of ordinary aircraft," said the article.

"On May 24, the Japanese Special Attack Corps carried out a furious attack on American warships and transports off the Okinawa Islands. In this attack, Japan lost 111 pilots, but the Americans suffered a total of 11 warships and transports sunk. Personnel losses of the American Navy alone in the battle of Okinawa reached 9,000 even according to the announcement of the Nimitz Headquarters.

"The American Navy having suffered extremely huge losses, was obliged to replace the Third Fleet with the Fifth Fleet. To kill the enemy without being killed is common sense in war, but to expect and to choose death often brings about maximum results. The danger that faces the pilot who plunges himself on to his objective at a speed of 1,000 kilometers an hour is extremely great. Yet such an enemy is to be respected."

Costly, Serious Business

The New York Times recently carried statements by both Vice-Admiral Thomas Kinkaid and James Forrestal voicing common opinion that the Japanese "suicide planes" were persistent, troublesome and dangerous, according to a Washington report reaching Lisbon.

Kinkaid declared in Washington that the Japanese special attack planes were "persistent and troublesome" and that the best answer to them would be the heavy gunpower of the United States naval vessels.

Kinkaid grimly observed that the "unpleasant" business of "mass suicide attacks" started with the Leyte operation and that they concentrate on ships wherever they can find them. He declared that planes "scored heavily against us in the Mindoro operation and continued the attacks at Luzon." The Admiral suggested that the "most effective measure against them is to catch them on the ground and destroy them before they take off."

James Forrestal observed that the Japanese apparently counted on the "one plane one ship" strategy and declared that the casualty figures for the naval support forces alone demonstrate that the naval support land operations was "costly and serious business."

Britishers Are Warned

Thousands of Londoners who crowded the Guildhall on Wednesday were utterly disheartened by the realistic warning expressed by Lieutenant General William Slim, Commander of the 14th Army, who saw action in Burma, says a London dispatch to Lisbon.

In the speech, General Slim warned his listeners that the Allies would have to exert more efforts to defeat Japan than they had expended to conquer Germany. "The war is not over," declared the General who was described by the Lord Mayor of London as "having won an honored place among the greatest of Britain's generals." "At this very moment in Burma, Malaya and Borneo, in the air over these countries, and in the seas around them, our men and those of our allies are fighting and dying," he said.

General Slim's words were relayed to the people who had been unable to crowd into the Guildhall. The General recited the story of the 14th Army and the part it played in the Burma campaign.

WARTIME LIFE OF WOMEN IN GERMANY IS DESCRIBED

Mrs. Chisato Nakayama Gives Vivid Impressions of Situation in Country

Much has been said of Germany's defeat, but the way the German women fought as members of the national volunteer corps in factories and at home, doing their bit in the war, is particularly interesting to the women of Japan who hope to learn a lesson from their erstwhile comrades in arms. Now we have at hand what Mrs. Chisato Nakayama, wife of the Yomiuri-Hochi correspondent in Berlin, who with her husband returned on June 30 from war-torn Germany, felt with her first glimpse of Japanese womanhood.

With vivid memories of the wartime life of German women, Mrs. Nakayama said, "On the train I met a Japanese young girl who was going to visit her folks who had evacuated to some country place. She was resolved to stay behind at the factory until the very last. The Germans are a nation which tends to doing things collectively and so even though some might be secretly dissatisfied with National Socialism, once the leader issued orders the national trait was to carry out those orders. Though the Hitler Girl Corps as a body were very patriotic, it was difficult to discern any particular bravery when members of such a corps are considered individually.

"Though my contact with this Japanese girl was very short, I was strongly impressed by the depth of the brave fighting spirit of the Japanese women each fresh contact with whom since my arrival in Tokyo has strengthened this impression.

Japanese Are Cheerful

"I was struck by the optimistic feeling prevailing among the Japanese as they walked through the devastated areas. The food problem must be pressing, too, I think but everyone seems to be working cheerfully. In contrast, the expression on the faces of the German women, so dark and hopeless and depressed as it was just before Germany's downfall comes to my mind and it seems to me a if I could see light as to why Germany, though she is my native land, fell.

"Up to the time of the opening of the second front in June and July, last year, life in Germany, as compared to the life there during the previous European War was extravagant and we used to say to each other that if the war were to come to an end with things as plentiful we were indeed lucky. But this brightness suddenly crumbled with the enemy's invasion of France. We had until then been receiving 4,000 grams of white bread and 750 grams of black bread a month. These rations were drastically reduced to 2,000 grams of black bread alone. The butter ration was decreased from 375 grams to 175 grams, while we only got 62 grams of cheese where we were getting 175 grams. The meat ration fell from 1000 grams to 800 grams and the sugar ration, from 900 grams to 500 grams, while the weekly ration of potatoes fell from 750 grams to 500 grams.

"However, the rationed bread contained vitamins A, B and C while there were at times special rations of flour and jam. For working women, vegetables and fish were guaranteed by the time they left their work and though the food was decreased, yet things were not so bad that we suffered unbearable pangs of hunger.

"We never came to feel that we had to grow our own vegetables for increased food production. When there was not enough butter for breakfast, we would use a little jam instead. At lunch we would eat potatoes and vegetables sauteed in butter, and at dinnertime it was our custom to have the biggest meal using our ingenuity with what was rationed.

Clothing Rations Smooth

"Clothing was early put on the ticket system, but until the time when raids became really severe, we could buy most of the items for which we had tickets. Even as late as this year, we were certain of getting stockings, underwear and thread. For the most part, women still wore skirts, but this was because of adequate bomb-proof shelters and also due to the opinion of the authorities and criticisms of the press that slacks for women were unbecoming and unwomanly.

"On this point I should like to say that the present apparel of the Japanese women is suited for fighting purposes and at the same time, womanly and becoming. It is not flattery on my part when I say that I think it is the most beautiful in the world.

"The women were the firefighters in Germany. They also played a great part in production and in office work, while they even assisted the air-defense units. When the situation became increasingly acute the government even called upon the women to take up arms but this call was never really enforced.

"Thus conditions in Berlin up to the final stages could be borne. But when the war became unfavorable since the opening of the second front the women were plunged into despair. When the large-scale air raids threatened their lives, they hoped only that the 'mosquitoes' the enemy planes, would stop coming no matter what might happen to them. Among the women were those who trusted that the appearance of a new secret weapon would wipe out the pests.

"Now as I view the womanhood in this land of my husband, I feel that if the women of Germany had only a little more of the fighting spirit of the Japanese, they might have won out."

SOVIET TROOPS APPEAR OUTSIDE GREEK BORDER

Uneasiness Is Rife in Greece As Frontier Incidents Increase in Number

A special New York Times report from Athens said that Soviet troops have now appeared on Bulgaria's frontier with Greece, and at some points Russian non-commissioned officers appear to be in charge of border posts. The report dated July 12 said that although sources for this information cannot be revealed it may be considered entirely accurate.

The report added that this fact added to the general uneasiness now prevailing in Greece where there is an acute awareness that the frontier incident with small Albanian, Yugoslav and Bulgarian bands are growing in number. British units stationed in Macedonia and Thrace are reportedly doing their utmost to maintain order and keep the scale of these incidents in check.

The New York Times report further disclosed that while most minor frays are extremely trivial, the fact that they are occurring on the average of every other day is disturbing. A few weeks ago an Indian army captain escorting some Greek Boy Scouts on a picnic near the Bulgarian frontier was arrested when he went up to the border to inform the Bulgarians what his group comprised. He was later released by a Russian officer but his jeep was impounded.

Shortly afterwards, a mixed British and Greek patrol in three carriers misread its maps and penetrated by a hundred yards into Bulgaria. They were arrested and were held for three days during which they were thoroughly interrogated by a Soviet colonel who came from Sofia. When they were permitted to return, their interpreter was required first to sign a statement to the effect that they had not been interrogated.

The British consul to Salonika and two Red Cross nurses, picknicking by the Yugoslav border, crossed 20 yards into the country. They were immediately arrested and held for a week. They reported the presence of a Soviet mission in the south Yugoslav town of Bitolj.

The report added that a series of raids into Greece are being made by Bulgarian and Yugoslav units and a regulars. Furthermore, there is considerable evidence that a organized irregular band led by the Bulgarian special police is operating in Thrace and Macedonia. Occasionally Greek citizens have been kidnapped and taken north of the frontier.

In order to tighten up the situation, the British reportedly have now placed strict restrictions on the borders and no Russians are admitted into Greece without prior permission of the Allied control commission at Sofia. Despite this order, a party of four Soviet officers and a driver bluffed their way into Greece a fortnight ago and "disappeared" until they showed up in Athens a few days later. British units have been ordered to remain at a distance of one mile from the border.

Within Greece, meanwhile, the British complain that the Communist Party is conducting a campaign against the morale of the British troops, especially the Indian units who have been subjected to rumors that the British are sinking ships carrying Indian troops and are being stirred up on platforms of immediate independence for India. They are also being bribed to give up their weapons to secret organizations. Couriers from the Greek Communist Party to Yugoslav and Bulgarian agents have been intercepted.

The report claimed that the result of all this is that not only are the Balkan relationships undergoing considerable strain, but Anglo-Russian harmony is deteriorating.

Greek Premier in Salonika

The Greek Prime Minister arrived in Salonika on July 12 for lengthy talks with Macedonian political leaders, according to a Stockholm dispatch.

Reuter's correspondent in Salonika said it is understood that the Greek Prime Minister will use the information gained in these talks as a basis for an official statement to the foreign press correspondents in reply to recent charges by the Premier of Yugoslavia Marshal Joseph Tito Brozovitch. In a speech last weekend, Tito claimed that thousands of Macedonians and other Greeks had fled into Yugoslavia to escape what he called "the terror of the Greek reactionaries."

Report Is Submitted By Foreign Minister At Imperial Audience

Foreign Minister and concurrently Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister Shigenori Togo proceeded to the Imperial Palace at 10:10 a.m. on Friday and was received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor, to whom he submitted a report on matters within his competency.

140 SUPERFORTS ATTACK EASTERN ARMY DISTRICT

Utsunomiya, Tsurumi and Koriyama Raided Despite Inclement Weather

About 140 B-29 bombers made incendiary raids on the Eastern Army district late on Thursday night despite inclement weather. Seventy of the superforts hit Utsunomiya, 50 attacked Tsurumi and 20 raided Koriyama.

The announcement issued at 11 a.m. on Friday by the Eastern Army District Headquarters concerning this raid follows:

"Some 140 B-29's coming from a southern base singly or in small formations made incendiary attacks against medium and small cities in the Eastern Army District for three hours from 11 p.m. on Thursday. Utsunomiya and part of the Keihin district were subjected to enemy attacks with the result that fires started, but they were mostly brought under control before daybreak on Friday."

The Central Army District Headquarters and the Osaka Naval Defense Headquarters issued the following joint statement at 10 a.m., on Friday:

"About 100 Mariana-based B-29's entered the main island via the Kumano Sea at 11:45 p.m. on July 12 in three formations and a part of them attacked Tsuruga City with incendiaries, while the main force dropped mines in Wakasa Bay. Fires started in Tsuruga City, but were placed under control by this morning."

Okinawa-based B-25's and other large planes aggregating about 40 and approximately 140 small aircraft tried to attack airfields in Kagoshima, Miyazaki and Oita prefectures on the morning of July 12. However, due to bad weather conditions, they fled without causing any damage. Part of the enemy also operated over the west Shikoku area.

On the afternoon of the same day, 16 small Okinawa-based enemy planes carried out attacks from above the clouds on Miyazaki Nobeoka. Prior to this raid, about 18 B-29's bombed the Hakuta Bay and Kammon areas.

Late on Wednesday night, five units of B-29's dropped mines in Wakasa Bay. One B-24 was also seen operating over the coastal area of Atsumi Peninsula at 9:30 p.m. At 11:30 p.m., another B-29 appeared over the East Army District.

AUSSIE PREMIER APPOINTED

Joseph B. Chifley, Australian Treasurer, was appointed the 16th Prime Minister of Australia in succession to the late John Curtin on July 12, according to a Canberra dispatch to Domei relayed from Lisbon.

Chifley had been acting Prime Minister during Curtin's illness and in the absence of former acting Prime Minister Francis Forde at the San Francisco Conference. After Curtin's death Deputy Prime Minister Forde now back in Australia was sworn in as the temporary Prime Minister. Both Forde and Dr. Herbert V. Evatt, Minister for External Affairs, who was also a member of Australia's delegation to San Francisco had been among the ministers mentioned for the post.

Chifley, 54-year-old Commonwealth Treasurer and Minister for Postwar Reconstruction since 1942, first came to the front in the Labor world in 1928.

It was also announced that Forde was appointed Deputy Prime Minister and that there will be no effort to change the present cabinet.

B-17 Production Suspended

The U.S. War Production Office has announced the suspension hereafter of the manufacture of B-17's, says a Domei Lisbon report quoting a Washington dispatch.

BALIK PAPAN INVADERS HIT IN SHOCK ATTACKS

Havy Battles Continuing in Vicinity of Airfield and Oil Refineries

Special to the Nippon Times

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC BASE, July 13.—Heavy fighting continues in the Balik Papan area, particularly in the vicinity of the airfield and the oil refineries.

Under cover of fierce bombardments and aerial operations, the invaders are making a persistent drive forward. However, they are being prevented from achieving any considerable gains due to the stubborn Japanese counteraction. An attempt to infiltrate into the jungle areas is also being made by the enemy.

In a two-day battle on July 9 and 10, the Japanese in shock attacks accounted for 150 enemy groups besides blowing up two tanks and two trench mortars. In the area near the airfield, over 100 invaders were blown up by Japanese land mines.

By I. IKEDA
Of the Military Press Corps

SOUTHERN FRONT BASE, July 12.—The Japanese Garrison Unit at Balik Papan, watching its opportunity, is raiding the enemy's position in a systematic manner.

Three chief seamen, [illegible], Yamamoto and Kobayashi, on the evening of July 6, departed from their position, and aided by Indonesians succeeded in getting behind the enemy's artillery position without attracting the enemy's attention. They waited until sunset when they made a surprise attack upon the enemy.

With bombs they smashed two enemy guns and killed and wounded a large number of men. While on the way back from the attack, Kobayashi, alone, retraced his course to the enemy's position, heavily damaged a gun with hand-grenades, and died a heroic death.

Tanamasa Inhabitants Cooperate

The native inhabitants of Tanamasa Island, of the Mentawai group, are collaborating actively with the Japanese Forces and distinguishing themselves in action against the enemy forces that have landed there and made a base of the island, according to a July 11 front report from Sumatra to Domei.

Operating against the enemy forces that are trying to retake Sumatra and have been landing on Tanamasa Island and other surrounding islands, native minutemen, on June 5, discovered and attacked an enemy position on the eastern side of Tanamasa Island. On June 11, natives and armed police attacked and reduced the second enemy position which lay four kilometers northwest of the first position. At about 9 a.m., June 12, a patrol boat met an enemy destroyer heading north along the straits off the island. When the enemy destroyer was but 700 meters away and enemy shells commenced falling about the patrol boat, the Japanese boat opened fire with machineguns and rifles. Sublieutenant Kinugawa was hit and died in this action.

Peter Zurnip, a Sergeant Major in the Volunteer Medical Corps, ran to the side of the officer who had fallen to the bottom of the boat, but an enemy bullet pierced his head. Sub-Lieutenant Haromoan Futagarn, also of the native volunteers, leapt into the sea in order to swim to the island to get into touch with the armed forces there. He also died as enemy shells fell in showers all around him.

The enemy destroyer, showing signs of uneasiness, sped off northward at about this time. Thus, a small boat was able to engage and chase away an enemy destroyer. Sub-Lieutenant Futagarn and Sergeant Major Zurnip have been posthumously promoted two ranks for the fine record they set for the native volunteer forces. These men are the first natives to have received this honor.

U.S. Casualties Show Rise of 12,167 in Week; Now Total 1,049,104

It was announced on Thursday that the casualties of the United States armed forces since the outbreak of the war reached 1,049,104—12,167 more than last week's total, it is disclosed in a Washington dispatch reaching Lisbon. The navy accounted for [illegible] of the week's increase and the army for [illegible].

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The Japanese Social Structure

It is an incontrovertible fact that Japan has not only already triumphantly weathered blows which would have easily destroyed other nations but has emerged from these blows more resolute and unshaken than ever. The extent of the devastation wrought by the enemy's blind bombing of civilian centers, the extent to which reliance has had to be placed on self-sufficiency in the production of daily necessities, and the countless other dislocations from normal livelihood caused by the exigencies of the war have been such as would have completely overthrown nations which did not possess the incomparable power of adaptation which the Japanese nation enjoys.

But despite the magnitude of these blows, Japan stands as firm as ever. All necessary adjustments have been made with the minimum of confusion. An unprecedented number of urban victims of the bombing raids have been quickly evacuated and dispersed to safer rural districts. This mass movement of population has been effected with a surprisingly small amount of governmental regimentation, considering its extent. Although, to be sure, the Government rendered every possible aid, it was largely on their own initiative and through their own individual efforts that the majority of the evacuees quickly made their own arrangements to fit themselves into a new life in a new environment. Only a relatively small proportion of the total have had to be cared for in organized groups by governmental agencies, although such cases, where they have been necessary as in the case of the resettlement project in Hokkaido, have been handled with marked success.

Although it need not be denied that the sudden influx of such a large displaced urban population into the rural districts has given rise to the inevitable problem of social adjustments, considering the magnitude of the movement the evacuated individuals have been generally absorbed into the life of the rural communities with a surprising minimum of friction. The coming of the city evacuees has strengthened the rural communities by furnishing a welcome addition to the much needed labor supply on the farms.

In the matter of the necessity for attaining self-sufficiency in foodstuffs likewise, the Japanese nation has made the necessary adjustments with singular success. Despite the greatest population density in the world, with but a scanty ratio of arable land to mountainous, wooded areas, Japan is successfully managing to sustain her people with her home-grown products. There is no famine, no starvation, no want anywhere, which is more than can be said for other much more naturally favored lands even in times of peace. In fact, although some adjustments have naturally had to be made in both the quantity and the variety of rationed foodstuffs, the livelihood of the people is being securely maintained. Adaptations in the form of the growing of various subsidiary crops in addition to the traditional staples, adaptations in the habits of cooking and utilization, and adaptations in the methods of distribution have succeeded in assuring a national self-sufficiency in food.

Such successful adjustments, with no disorder or breach of social discipline, with the minimum of confusion, with the maintenance of peerless morale, indicate that Japanese society must possess some unique sources of stability.

The fundamental explanation, of course, is to be found in the spiritual strength which comes from the Japanese people's matchless loyalty to their Imperial Sovereign. The supreme patriotism of the Japanese people enables them to cope successfully with any demand which may be occasioned by their country's war for self-defense and self-existence and the propagation of its ideal of moral justice. But this spiritual power is supplemented by specific characteristics of Japan's social structure which gives it unique strength and flexibility.

One of such characteristics is the underlying concept of the whole Japanese nation as constituting a single family. With all Japanese feeling themselves to be members of the same family, there is no possibility of a splitting asunder in the face of any external force. No theory of social compact, formed as a matter of expediency and equally dissoluble for causes of expediency, binds Japanese society together. The Japanese nation is one family of one blood, inseparably bound in a union which cannot be touched by the hands of man. No crisis can weaken such a social structure; increasing demands simply cause each member to aid and support the other members all the more for the good of the common family.

Another factor of Japan's social strength is the fact that, within the structure of this great national family, the ties of the individual families remain so strong. Whereas a family in Western society consists of only the father and mother with their children, the Japanese family is a large organic unit consisting of all the immediate blood relatives united in an ethical and moral system. Such a family system constitutes a source of great social strength, for with a strong sense of corporate responsibility, the family takes care of any of its members who need aid. Although some members of the family may meet with misfortune in an enemy raid, other sections of the family with ramifications in other localities invariably respond with all their capacity for aid. Such a family system, operating naturally and automatically, constitutes a much sounder system of mutual support than any artificial agency set up by official or private organization.

Still another source of Japan's social strength is to be found in the fact that the vast majority of the Japanese families have their roots firmly planted in the soil of the rural districts. Although some of their individual members may live in the cities, most families remain established in the country engaged in the basic productive activities. Hence they possess unlimited capacity for re-absorbing their members who find it necessary to return to their native hearths.

Japanese society, with its emphasis upon social unity rather than on individual self-interest, moreover makes its members capable of cooperating together in a corporate existence. In times of emergency, when in union there is strength, this ability of the Japanese to pool their efforts and to work together as a group instead of as unrelated individuals constitutes an element of incalculable national strength.

Finally the social habits of the Japanese, the traditional pattern of the Japanese way of life, remain simple and natural. There is little dependence upon the highly fabricated and artificial material accessories which the Western peoples must have. Japanese life remains close to nature, and consequently it possesses the capacity for adjustments which are not possible for a people who are steeped in a more artificial way of life. The Japanese people are consequently able to withstand the burdens and strains which other peoples cannot bear.

With such characteristics inherent in Japanese society, the Japanese people possess a strength which cannot be conquered by material power. No matter how much the enemy may try, he will never be able to break the unique solidity of the Japanese social structure which assures the unconquerability of the Japanese nation.

HOKKAIDO'S FARM TROOPS

Present Volunteer Corps Recalls Past Experience

By KOHEI TANAKA

Although many in Tokyo have been made homeless by the enemy's recent indiscriminate raids, the morale of the people runs high. Confirming this fact is a report which reveals that a large number of these unfortunate victims, overcoming the calamities of war, have volunteered to serve as "colonial troops" in the Hokkaido. The first batch of these settlers departed early this month.

What does this signify, if not striking evidence of the oft-repeated aphorism that "History repeats itself." For the Meiji Era is prolific with brave and noble tales of Japan's "tonden-hei" or, literally speaking, "farm troops."

While it is true to say that the creation of this band of colonials was the result of the voluntary response of the people to the needs of the dark period following the Meiji Restoration, it should not be overlooked that the steps chosen for the formation of this volunteer force were, from the broad perspective of the national viewpoint, also the direct outcome of the pressing necessity of the situation at the time which called for the compulsory defense of our northern territory.

Difficult Problem Confronted

On the stage of international affairs, Britain, America and Russia were stretching out their rapacious tentacles for territory and more territory and while, at home, Japan had only just sloughed off her worn out skin of feudalism and replaced it with the new coat of a modern civilization. How was she to solve the multifarious problems, internal and external, that overnight, as it were, were forced upon her young and immature shoulders? Would her efforts be crowned with success or would she mess up her new apparel with indelible stains of failure and of shame?

No one could tell. Even the stark reality of the present could give no clue, for it found her standing alone and without aid at a critical juncture in her history.

One of the first moves made to meet the internal situation was the repeated pleas by the Great Saigo that an army of farm troops be immediately organized. Taking up a pick and shovel himself, so it is said, he exclaimed, "I will migrate to the northern lands. If I do not, then in my stead I will send my faithful friend and follower Kunimoto Shinchara." Nothing has been told as to whether his wishes were carried out or not, but records show that he did dispatch Toshiaki Kirino, another of his aides, to the districts of Sapporo and Ishigari for a close survey of the land.

Saigo, too, was not amiss in matters pertaining to national defense. His plan, based on a line linking Hokkaido with Chosen, shows the possession of great foresight and strategic ability. It was practically the greatest of his prides and prizes. His confidence and emphatic insistence on its materialization could find little if any equal. Undoubtedly it is because of these factors, that such of his proteges as Kyotake Kuroda, Yaichiro Nagayama and Takeshiro Nagayama firmly kept the torch of his pet project burning and adamantly and overtly supported it either in the form of "White Papers" or "Statements of Views."

Force of 250 Sent

Thus it happened that the dispatch of the first army of settlers to Hokkaido, composed of one battalion and one company, had already been completed in the period of the Satsuma Rebellion. The force consisted of some 250 or more families chosen from among the disbanded retainers of the sixth Northeastern Clan. And May 6, 1875, marked the historical day when this initial band of pioneers and troops set sail from the little port of Aomori in Japan's far north.

In this connection, and as a slight diversion, it may do well to pen herewith the remarks of Motokichi Tochiuchi, one of Japan's grand old sages, who at the age of 95 passed away two years ago. In a conversation centered mainly on events long past, he said: "The departure of the first group of farm troops from the port of Aomori took place, as far as I can remember, 70 years ago. As a matter of fact, the event hardly escapes my memory for the Russo-Japanese treaty exchanging Saghalien for the Kurile Islands was signed in the capital of the Czars on May 7, 1875, the day following their embarkation. Accidental as it may seem, the event is not only one of the most regrettable in Japanese history but it also finds an ineradicable place in my collection of painful memories."

With the army village as the base of their operations, the farm troops began to carve out their new lives strictly pledged to a motto which called for co-existence and co-prosperity. Although received and treated with the utmost hospitality, life for them was no soft and happy one. In the barren plains of the bleaky north where the bamboo grass, growing wild, afforded ample coverage to the prowling polar bear, these sturdy settlers spent their days and nights in indescribable poverty and patience, either eking out their subsistence or in drills and practice with their new weapons of defense.

Battled Against Hardships

A section of the army settled in districts where the soil was not only sterile but where the thick and prevalent sea fogs brought in their wake innumerable disasters. For two or three years, therefore, they battled against a critical period of dispersion and deep depression. While some might have failed, others who branched off to other parts of the country and rebuilt their villages were duly rewarded in time. The success which crowned their labors came in the form of a district now productive in peppermint of which there is a scarcity elsewhere in the world. Again, while there were some who individually dissociated themselves from the army village, the entire group, on the whole, permanently settled down in the country to become natives of the soil.

A perusal of the history of intensive labor through which these farm troops underwent, a short description regarding which has already been made above, will no doubt reveal the causes for the success of that early venture. Be that as it may, one of the reasons which contributed to its triumph is positively and directly due to the fact that right throughout, from beginning to end, the army had been directed by a single man.

He was no other than Takeshiro Takeda, Saigo's close friend and one time companion. For 30 years he devoted all his energies to the single task of developing the northern regions. And in later years, just preceding the demobilization of the farm troops, when he received the Imperial Order to command the Seventh Brigade, Hokkaido still numbered him as one of her veteran residents.

Looked After Followers

Even after his retirement, his heart and soul was ever reserved for the troops of his old band. Whenever one of them, now a seasoned old farmer, would call on him during a visit to Tokyo, he would never fail, it is said, no matter how ill he might be, to appear at the doorway of his house in person, to greet his guest. Then enquiring after the harvest of the past season, he would reward him for his labors and spur him on with effective words of encouragement.

Unfortunately, however, he failed to see or hear the story of one of the greatest exploits his men achieved. For the brilliant capture of Hill 203 by his Seventh Brigade took place six months after his death.

Right in the middle of farms and farm work, whose scale and methods find their counterparts in America, he conceived and established what was then known as "The Way of Japan's Farm Troops." Furthermore, in later years, after a frank discussion with Tsuneaki Shugo, he, in company with Shugo, put the final touch to the great work which finds a prominent place in Japan's rice-planting annals.

The map of rice-fields up till then had indicated the northern extremity of Aomori Prefecture, latitude 41 degrees north, as the northernmost boundary of an area subject to rice cultivation. These two men, however, by actual results, offered tangible evidence that this could now be pushed up four degrees to latitude 45 degrees north.

Cause of Success

As a result, no more convincing proof could be offered to show that even Manchuria was a potential rice-growing center. The brilliant accomplishments of these men veritably climaxed and initiated what may be termed revolutionary developments in world agriculture. While on the subject of his meritorious accomplishments, it might incidentally be stated that all his successes, at home and abroad, were the products of his teachings in "The Way of Japan's Farm Troops," a purely Japanese affair, which he conceived and built after he had surveyed the life and activities of pioneer bands settled along the boundaries of almost every country in the world.

Leadership and organization capable of fulfilling its objectives despite all adversities are, no doubt, the big factors contributing to the success of the farm troopers in the Meiji Era. While this is indeed true, most important of all, however, is the will of every member of the band to direct his life's outlook not on anything else but on the absolutely unselfish purpose which finds fitting expression in the historical sentence which reads in part, "Ye, the subjects of Japan: What better glory can there be than to offer your bodies and your lives to Our Gracious Emperor, all in all."

Now again, when Showa's farm troops are about to leave, we are gripped with the belief that they will probably keep in mind two things. Not to forget that in Hokkaido, the same land they are bound for, the tradition of Meiji's farm troops still exists; that other troops, like themselves, joining the "Volunteer Army of Development" have proceeded them to Manchoukuo and that they should automatically, alone and without restraint, awake to the consciousness that the long and slow course of events demands that we must live.

WAR ECONOMY ON THE CONTINENT

Great Credit Due North China For Assistance

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

III

Centering its industrial activities on the iron of Lungyen and the coal of Tatung, the development of natural resources in Mengchiang is making a steady progress. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that the Lungyen iron ore is being supplied to Japan, Manchoukuo and to the newly developed iron industry of North China. The Mengchiang Government, in its determination to increase its production of iron ore, coal, and other special ores, established various necessary organs, since the first part of 1944, such as Industrial Department, National Defense Resources Control Committee, and Emergency Development Headquarters. Centering on the Industrial Department are several specially chartered companies which activities are centered on the development of coal, iron ore and electric industries. Charged to the work of the National Defense Resources Control Committee is the exploitation of its special minerals. As a central organ the Emergency Mineral Ore Development Headquarters was established composed of both officials and civilians. Setting up thus a powerful industrial front, Mengchiang is committed to the realization of an enormous increase in its war production.

Mengchiang, however, experienced labor shortage in its mines, especially in the Lungyen Iron Mine, caused from the decrease of laborers from North China since the spring of 1944. This has been largely overcome through the voluntary services of the resident Japanese and through the mobilization of industrial servicemen from the different villages. With this special labor service the whole mine went ahead with the work of increasing production, resulting in a big jump in the last half of 1944 from what had been the case in the first half. Likewise, coal production made a steady increase last year throughout both the first and last halves with activities centered on the Tatung Coal Mine. This was due to the reorganization of the Tatsingshan Coal Mine and to the transferring of workers and equipment from the Hwayuan Coal Mine to Tatung, so as to consolidate the latter's productivity. Moreover, good results have been due to the proper leadership given by the National Defense Resources Control Committee.

Regarding the capital investment in the development of mineral resources in Mengchiang, there are twelve companies including those engaged in the production of electric power, with a total capitalization of something close to 300,000,000 yen at the end of June 1944. The increase in the total amount of production by these different industries in 1943 was several times over what was the case in 1938.

Mengchiang, prior to the China Affair, was a place of colonization for the people of Peking and Tientsin. It was primarily an agricultural country and thus there was nothing particularly noticeable in its industrial line, nor was there any accumulation of large capital for investment. It was in such a state that in order to develop its industries to meet the requirements of increased production, it had to import practically everything, including technical experts, materials for construction, equipment, and even daily necessities. Such being the case, the Mengchiang Government had to start a barter system with its neighboring countries to ensure the obtainment of needed materials, while, on the other hand, it built up light industries inside the country to maintain her self-sufficiency in daily necessities.

Central and South China

Besides their contribution toward the enhancement of the Japanese fighting front, there is a movement going on in both Central and South China for the ensurance of popular livelihood. This movement is mainly rooted in the economic question and in parallel with the development of their natural resources and assistance to the war cause, it is being pushed for an early realization. The movement is in the charge of the Nanking National Government, which is attaining steady results. As everyone knows the iron ore from the Tayeh Iron Mine is supplied to the foundry of Yawata Iron Works of Japan. Likewise the iron mines of Hainan Island are valuable in this respect. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that in Central China there is going on a concerted collaboration between the Japanese officials and the Chinese populace toward the development of the mining industry which is far behind that of North China, so that Central China may also expect to become a important war supply base.

The fact that most of the iron mines in Central China are located along the Yangtze River and its tributaries makes it easy to ship their production to Japan. Consequently, river transportation in this respect has become more brisk with the intensification of the war situation and great importance has come to be attached to this line of service. For instance, according to the production record of the Tayeh Iron Mine for the first half of 1944, it made a big increase from that of the previous year. To relieve the transportation difficulties the Nippon Iron Works has been endeavoring to increase the trips of large-type ships by making Wuhu on the lower reaches of the Yangtze River a relay port. At the same time, by making use of the river boats an increase in the shipment to Japan is expected. Likewise the development of the iron mines in the Maanshan area of Anhwei is steadily progressing.

Fluor-spar, which is being mined at Chuki, Iwu and Wuyi of Chekiang, is essential for the manufacture of steel and airplanes. Formerly much difficulty was had in transporting this mineral, but since the Chekiang-Kiangsi Railway was opened by the Chinese railroad authorities in April 1943, the mining enterprise had tended to pick up. With the construction of the Kinhwa-Wuyi Railway in April 1944, an increased shipment of this fluor-spar, which is claimed to be the richest in the world, has been assured.

Besides the iron and fluor-spar produced from this part of China, there are copper and manganese mines in Anhwei, now in the course of development. Though not being shipped directly to Japan, yet playing a major part in the strengthening of her fighting power, is the coal from Hwainan Coal Mine of Anhwei. This coal has been regularly mined since the spring of last year when the mining and transportation equipments were electrified and mechanized. This coal mine is proving a great blessing to Central China which has hitherto depended upon North China for two-thirds of its coal supply.

(To Be Continued)

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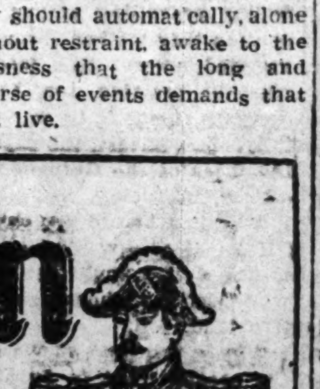

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THE JAPANESE FAMILY SYSTEM

Spirit of Loyalty Is Nurtured in the Home

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

I

I distinctly remember the exquisite delight I felt as I sat on the straw mat of my wooden house, upon my return to my native land from a trip to the Occident some years ago. I came to appreciate the peculiar charm and delight which the Japanese house exercised upon the mind of a Japanese who was released from the prison of the materialistic world of the west.

The Chinese character "iye" was of course invented by the Chinese and this character is made up of two words, namely "roof" and "hog," the latter being placed under the former. This composition is highly characteristic of Chinese mentality which is highly materialistic and in which we Japanese can hardly agree. But the Japanese pronounciation of the word "iye" possesses an undescribable warm sound. The Chinese must have combined the two words "roof" and "hog" because they always found some domestic cattle within a house; such an association may be likened to the western idea of "family" the root word of which is found in the Latin word "familia," which means "property." The Japanese conception of the household is entirely different from such materialistic ideas. The house in Japan is either called "uchi" or "interior" or "iye' or "a sleeping quarter." When I felt the undescribable sense of relief and comfort as I sat on the Japanese straw mat, the old sentiment that the house is the resting place of humans—a sentiment which had been handed down from time immemorial, must have made its reappearance within my very soul.

We Japanese have been accustomed to the delight and comfort of our wooden house for so long that I am inclined to believe that any Japanese, who has had no experience of living in the western world with its materialistic environments, would be unable to appreciate the beneficence of the Japanese house. True, the forms of construction of our houses may have undergone many and various transformations in the course of history extending over several thousand years, and indeed there are different houses for peoples of different social standings and occupations. In essence, however, the Japanese house has remained the same and unaltered since time immemorial. The living mode of our ancestors must have been essentially the same as our own today. Our ancestors must have probably slept on wooden floors instead of the straw mats as we do now. But their house was a wooden structure just as it is today.

The fact that the Japanese house is conceived of as "uchi" or "interior" as against "exterior" shows that the Japanese domestic life is held in sharp distinction from social life, and this, in turn, shows how human life is regarded by our race. There is no such sharp distinction in the life of the Occidental people who attach primary importance to their social life instead of their domestic life and for whom the home exists for the sake of society, or we may rather say that society is found in one's own home. In other words, in the life of the Occidentals, their home life is identical with their social life and their social order is that of their home life. In the case of Japan, order in domestic life constitutes social order, instead of the latter constituting the former as in the case of the West.

In Japan, households make up what corresponds to society in the Occidental world. In the first place, it is highly doubtful whether we had any conception of society in our olden times. I am inclined to believe that our conception of the household corresponds with the Occidental conception of society. True, sociologists will tell us that there will be always a consciousness of society whenever people live in congregation but this conception is peculiar to Occidental sociology and it is comparatively recently that such a social nature came to be held in consciousness in Japan. The Japanese word "shakai" must be the translation of the English word "society" and most probably was coined in modern times.

(To Be Continued)

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